

[6 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) whether any demand in this regard has been made to Central Government by the Madhya Pradesh Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) As per guidelines of Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) issued in March, 2006 by the Government of India, Solid and Liquid Waste Management has been included as a component of TSC and upto 10% of the total project cost can be utilized for this component. Works will be done in Madhya Pradesh under this provision, no other provisions are proposed.

(b) Five revised proposals received from the States have been approved. Remaining will be approved on the receipt of the complete proposals from the State Government.

Jatropha and Pongamia Plantation in Assam

1627. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Mission on Bio-Diesel is proposed to take up plantation of Jatropha and Pongamia in three lakh hectares of waste, degraded and marginal land belonging to public agencies *i.e.* forest land, departmental land, including road, rail and canal bunds and common lands owned by Panchayats;

(b) if so, how many hectares have been identified in Assam for plantation of Jatropha and Pongamia, district-wise; and

(c) by when the plantation work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Mission on Bio-diesel is expected to take up plantation of Jatropha and Pongamia in atleast three lakh hectares.

(b) and (c) The Forest Department, Government of Assam has identified 30,000 hectares for taking up Jatropha plantations in the State. However, the actual areas to be taken up in Assam will have to be decided after launching of the National Mission on Bio-diesel.